

REMARKS

Claims 2-25 are all of the claims pending in the present Application. Claims 7-21 are allowed. Claims 2-6 and 23 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as unpatentable anticipated by US Patent 6,499,048 to Williams, and claims 24 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Williams.

Although Applicants maintain that the rejection currently of record fails to heed the plain meaning of the claim language, in order to expedite prosecution on the aspects that the Examiner is understood as considering allowable, they have decided to incorporate this allowable wording into the rejected independent claims.

FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

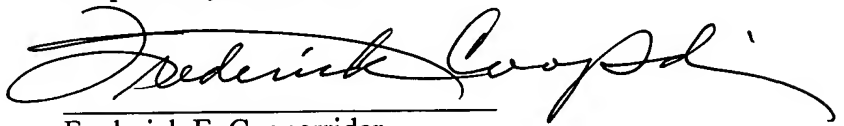
In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 2-25, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 9/13/05



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S/N 10/083,579